Application/Control Number: 10/821,495

Art Unit: 3728

In claim 9, line 1, "3" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 10, line 1, "5" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 11, line 1, "5" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 16, line 1, "15" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 18, line 1, "15" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 19, line 1, "15" has been changed to -3--.

In claim 30, the phrase --, wherein said predetermined release force is designed to fail at a predetermined load or threshold force level to prevent knee injury to a wearer—has been added before the period "."

Conclusion

2. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Other useful information can be obtained at the PTO Home Page at www.uspto.gov.

In order to avoid potential delays, Technology Center 3700 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Center at <u>(571) 273-8300</u> (FORMAL FAXES ONLY). Please identify Examiner <u>Ted Kavanaugh</u> of Art Unit <u>3728</u> at the top of your cover sheet.